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Peace accord has at last been triumphantly struck in El-Afweyne

VP's peace initiatives reap fruits after concerted intense efforts



By M.A. Egge

A grand new chapter of peace accord has dawned in Somaliland following the close of a peace initiative that has been cemented by the El afweyne residents' fraternity bringing to a halt a decade-long rivalry that had costed a lot of civil strife through

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US Congress members urge Somalia to reverse Taiwan passport ban



"If Somalia insists there is no reason for the United States to continue to pretend that it is independent, legitimate, or worthy of U.S. recognition," they say

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"We will not be a bargaining chip in unresolved Middle East disputes," Somaliland foreign minister



In this exclusive interview, the Editor-in-Chief of *The Daily Euro Times*, Gus Anderson, sat down with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of

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Rep of Somaliland and Somalia's Puntland Swap Prisoners in Historic Peace Move

In a remarkable display of cooperation and diplomacy, Somaliland and Puntland have successfully exchanged 11 prisoners of war, marking a significant step towards easing tensions between the two regions. The prisoners, who had been held in custody for the past two years

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Somaliland's Economic Development Committee and Bank Chairman Adopt Resolutions to Advance Economic Growth



By Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Ministry of Finance convened a critical meeting to advance Somaliland's economic development, attended

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Somaliland's Minister of Energy and Minerals Launches Artisanal Mining Reform Pilot in Awdal Region

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Minister of Energy and Minerals, Eng. Ahmed Jama Barre, has launched a transformative pilot project in the Shirwac area of the Awdal region to reorganize and

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Dahabshiil CEO Praises British Envoy for Running London Marathon to Fundraise for Somali Children



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The Director General of Minerals Discusses Affordable Electricity Access in Burao with HECO Manager



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Dahabshiil Honored Global Workers on International Labor Day



On 1st May, we celebrate the hard work and dedication of workers everywhere, including the incredible efforts of 'Hibo iyo

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Peace accord has at last been.....

Rep of Somaliland and.....



loss of human lives, maiming and retrogression.

The El Afweyn Peace Conference was officially closed by the VP H.E. Mohamed Abdi aw Ali on Saturday the 3rd of May in a grand ceremony held in the town which ended in an historic victory and amicable agreement.

In his own words, the VP made it clear that “when the government sees that the peace decisions have been implemented, the projects pledged such as water, education and health services will be prioritized and the government will devote its resources to their implementation. The decisions you have made will be implemented as they are, no one can sway or change them at all.” It was graced by members of the members of the cabinet, the Sanaag regional administration, the crème of the nation’s scholars, the leaders of the National Political Parties, parliamentarians, intellectuals, scholars, clerics, traditional leaders and dozens of eminent personalities hence concluded with effective decisions that were intensely and thoroughly discussed upon.

The VP delivered a valuable and comprehensive speech at the conclusion of the conference, thanking the people of El-Afweyn and everyone who worked for the peace that was achieved in the area. He said, “We want an El-Afweyn with the same interests, the same feelings and the same aspirations, but without differences of interest and arguments. I want an El-Afweyn that is free from war and killing, we want to see El-Afweyn that is free from conflicts and ethnic strife, tribalism and division.” He underscored the fact that the reason he was elected was that

he and the President lead the society to better livelihood and development based on peaceful co-existence. “It is an undeniable fact that the reason our people voted for us, President Abdirahman and I, is to create a good life for our people, since life is based on peace, and what strengthens peace is good governance and the rule of law”, he said.

Talking of real commitment to the people of the area, he said, “My commitment is that we should never again see a situation where El-Afweyn’s residents kill each other, that the youth should not gather weapons, and that women should not wail and mourn again. You should join hands for peace and development”.

This peaceful initiative follows the priority focusses by the new administration government that had sought to have all conflicts in the country, whether political in nature or otherwise, be peacefully resolved hence cohesive, harmonious and united society take precedence. The triumph of the peaceful mission

is a culmination of three-month long concerted efforts led by the VP and the high-powered delegation whose sojourn in the Sanaag region throughout the period delved tirelessly into multi-prong pacification initiatives and addressed them to their conclusion.

It is worth noting that the cumbersome nationalization and integration of tens of hundreds of local community militias into the mainstream national armed forces processes went on in juxtaposition with the El Afweyn peace accord.

The VP’s three-month efforts, pragmatic leadership, perseverance and wisdom has since been highly held esteem, lauded, and widely praised making a household name in the nation.

It is the country’s wish, hope and prayers that this latest peaceful initiative in El-Afweyn will concretely hold and be everlasting, as the nation sighs in relief at last. Past low-level initiatives had failed in the yester-years.



following the Las’Anod crisis, were released under an agreement brokered by both governments.

Somaliland’s Minister of Justice Yonis Ahmed Yonis highlighted the humanitarian and diplomatic value of the operation, stating:

“This exchange aligns with our government’s commitment to peaceful coexistence and reconciliation, especially in conflict-affected areas like eastern Sool. It also reflects Somaliland’s adherence to international norms regarding the treatment of prisoners of war.”

Speaking from Garowe, Puntland’s Minister of Justice, Mohamed Abdi Wahaab, confirmed that 15

including well-tailored suits, ties, shoes, and a handbag filled with clothes. Each individual was also given \$1,000 in cash.

“The treatment was respectful, and we had everything we needed,” he added.

While the former colonel praised Somaliland’s approach, he was uncertain about the treatment of the prisoners released from Somaliland by Puntland. However, he noted that they appeared to be in good spirits, well-dressed, and well-cared-for.

The exchange of prisoners represents a rare and positive moment in the ongoing tensions between Somaliland and Puntland, which have had a complicated



Somaliland PoWs had been transferred back to their homeland.

“This is a positive step towards building mutual trust and promoting regional peace. It is deeply gratifying to see these young Somali men reunited with their families after years of separation due to war,” he said.

“Such actions reinforce social bonds and enable our communities to heal.”

Upon his arrival in Garowe on Wednesday, one of the prisoners, a former colonel captured during the Las’Anod conflict, spoke publicly about the conditions of his detention in Somaliland, offering an unexpected endorsement of the hospitality he received.

“I am truly thankful to the Government and the people of Somaliland,” he said, adding “The conditions in the prison were exactly like a hotel for us.”

According to the former prisoner, detainees in Somaliland were provided with a range of comforts,

relationship over issues such as territorial disputes and the status of regions like Las’Anod. The release of high-ranking prisoners, including a colonel, signals a potential thaw in relations, with both sides expressing a desire for peace and dialogue.

In recent months, both Somaliland and Puntland have made efforts to resolve their differences and promote stability in the region. The prisoner exchange is seen as a key step in building trust and establishing a foundation for further negotiations.

The exchange also highlights a broader trend of improving relations in the Horn of Africa, where local leaders are working to build bridges and reduce conflict, even in the face of historical animosities.

As the region moves forward, many hope that this exchange can serve as an example of how cooperation can lead to a more peaceful and prosperous future for both Somaliland and Puntland.

"We will not be a bargaining....."

Somaliland, [Minister Abdirahman Adam](#), in Hargeisa to discuss recognition, the Horn of Africa, and the Middle East. It is a pleasure to be with you in Hargeisa today of all places. As we approach the [reassertion of independence](#), on 18 May 1991, it is a significant time in Somaliland's history. Somaliland's Case: Geopolitical Uniqueness of Somaliland. Editor-in-Chief, Gus Anderson: How is Somaliland unique, in geopolitical terms, compared to other states such as Djibouti, Sudan, and Somalia?

Foreign Minister, Abdirahman Adam: Somaliland is unique. Unlike many post-colonial conflicts, our claim to statehood is based on historical sovereignty, democratic legitimacy, and regional stability. We achieved independence in 1960 before voluntarily entering a union with Somalia, one that failed catastrophically. Unlike states driven by external alliances or ideological blocs, we pursue a multi-vector foreign policy, balancing regional interests without becoming a client state of any global power. Bilateral Relations: Somaliland-Taiwan. Editor-in-Chief, Gus Anderson: Both Somaliland and Taiwan developed relations in [2020](#) with [reciprocal representative offices](#) in Taipei and Hargeisa. The Taiwanese FM is due to visit Hargeisa, on a official visit next week to discuss relations and maritime cooperation. Will maritime cooperation focus on militarization between your two states?

Our relationship with Taiwan is rooted in mutual respect, shared democratic values, and a commitment to peaceful development. Maritime cooperation will primarily focus on the security of trade, anti-piracy measures, and logistics infrastructure... not militarization. Therefore, the Horn of Africa needs stability, not new arms races. Any collaboration aligns with broader regional strategies, including U.S. and EU interests in open sea lanes and anti-terrorist efforts, especially as the Red Sea becomes increasingly [volatile](#).

China's Response: SSC-Khatumo Support

Editor-in-Chief, Gus Anderson: In Somaliland we see Beijing's tacit support for the SSC-Khatumo militia in Las Anod, Sool region. Aren't you worried about the repercussions of deeper maritime ties with Taiwan?

Foreign Minister, Abdirahman Adam: We are fully aware of China's geopolitical playbook. However, Somaliland has never traded sovereignty for short-term investment. Our consistent diplomatic position is that recognition should be based on merit, history, and democratic



governance than coercion. Somaliland will continue to welcome constructive partnerships while resisting external manipulation. Our relationship with Taiwan is based on mutual interest. Somaliland's Message to American Lawmakers.

Editor-in-Chief, Gus Anderson: You recently visited D.C. as part of your relationship with GOP lawmakers in the U.S.

What was your message to GOP lawmakers and how are you presenting the need for recognition?

Foreign Minister, Abdirahman Adam: We have told our friends in D.C.: Somaliland is doing what many recognized states struggle to do, maintaining security, holding elections, and managing critical infrastructure, all without formal recognition and no foreign aid. We have been very direct with lawmakers in Washington: if you want stability in the Horn of Africa, talk to the people who are actually providing it.

Somaliland has been a reliable, democratic partner for over three decades. Somaliland governs itself, secures its borders, and maintains peace in a volatile region. We have been clear; Somalia simply does not speak for us. That chapter closed a long time ago. Any attempt by Mogadishu to [offer ports or bases](#) within Somaliland's borders is like someone renting out a neighbour's house; it is not just misleading, it is absurd. Berbera port is under the control of Hargeisa, Somaliland's central government, and any negotiations concerning it must go through Hargeisa, [not Mogadishu](#).

Somalia's Attempt to Offer Berbera to the Americans

Editor-in-Chief, Gus Anderson: How did you present the [leaked memo](#), from Mogadishu via Reuters, concerning the potential exchange of air and naval assets in Somaliland to the U.S.?

Foreign Minister, Abdirahman Adam: As for [the letter](#), Somalia's president, Hassan Sheikh Mohamed, sent to the Trump administration. Well, it has made headlines... but not much else..

The Trump administration has not responded, and the letter only became public because someone leaked it to the press. Until then, it was just gathering dust like most of Mogadishu's foreign policy ambitions.

Somaliland's Security Policy

Editor-in-Chief, Gus Anderson: In Somalia, today, we see the resurgence of [Al-Shabaab](#), a uptick in [piracy](#) across the Indian Ocean, and Daesh in Puntland state.

What is Somaliland doing to ensure it's borders are secure? Why is Somaliland so secure despite the regional security challenges in neighbouring Somalia?

Foreign Minister, Abdirahman Adam: We've long understood that our security is our responsibility, recognition or not. While others are dealing with insurgencies and struggling to hold ground, Somaliland has kept its territories secure, its coast protected, and its streets peaceful. Our forces are locally rooted, community-driven, and unshaken by shifting allegiances. Piracy may be spiking elsewhere, but not on our shores. We don't just talk stability; we live it, every day. Trump's Plan: Recognition for Population Transfer?

Editor-in-Chief, Gus Anderson: Trump's earlier plan for Gaza consisted of population transfer, with reports of talks with several African countries, including Somaliland, Sudan, and South Sudan, in exchange for concessions.

In a interview with Israeli news agency, [KAN](#), your team said it was ["open to discussion on all matters, but we do not want to speculate on matters that have not yet been discussed."](#)

What is Somaliland's policy on Trump's plan; is Hargeisa prepared to host forcibly displaced Gazans in exchange for recognition?

Foreign Minister, Abdirahman Adam: Recognition should never be transactional; it must be based on principles, not population swaps. We welcome dialogue with all international actors on peace and cooperation, but we

Somaliland's Minister of Energy.....



empower artisanal miners. The initiative aims to harness the potential of small-scale mining while promoting sustainable practices nationwide.

Speaking at the launch, Minister Barre emphasized the project's significance:

"We are here today to reform the artisanal mining sector in the Shirwac area, which falls under the Awdal region. This pilot project seeks to organize miners across the country, and we hope it will succeed. This is not the end, but a starting point to apply this approach in all regions so they can benefit."

The initiative focuses on enhancing miners' skills, upgrading equipment, and raising awareness to maximize output while minimizing environmental and health risks. Barre noted the global prevalence of artisanal mining and Somaliland's opportunity to align with best practices:

"Artisanal miners are not unique to Somaliland; they exist worldwide. No country lacks them, and there are ways to benefit from and utilize their work. By training people, raising their awareness, improving their skills, and upgrading their equipment without causing harm, we can benefit from the resources they

extract while they also gain from their efforts."

The Minister underscored the government's commitment to responsible resource extraction, ensuring benefits for both the nation and local communities. He highlighted the need to align miners' efforts with their output:

"We must unite the efforts of those extracting minerals. The government has a general policy to ensure that gold and other resources are extracted responsibly, without harming the environment or the people, and in a way that benefits both the nation and the government. Additionally, we aim to raise awareness among the local community, enhance their knowledge, and add value to what we produce. You mine gold all day and produce something, but does the effort you put in match the output? We are here to align these two aspects."

The Ministry is actively evaluating the miners' contributions and their environmental impact, with plans to scale the pilot's successes to other regions. This project marks a significant step toward formalizing Somaliland's artisanal mining sector, fostering economic growth, and promoting sustainable development.

will not be a bargaining chip in unresolved Middle East disputes.

Normalization: Israel-Somaliland. Normalization isn't something that happens with the click of a button; it is a process, not a posture. Somaliland, like any responsible government, considers it's foreign relations through the lens of national interest, regional stability, and the values of its people. If those align, we are open to discussion with any nation. The Horn of Africa holds immense potential beyond just security cooperation. Energy,

technology, trade, and water security are all areas where regional and global actors, whether it is the U.S., UK, Israel, or the GCC, who can find a shared purpose with Somaliland. Any engagement must be mutual, principled, and anchored in respect for our sovereignty. Editor-in-Chief, Gus Anderson: Thank you for hosting us in Hargeisa and being open to hold this discussion. Foreign Minister, Abdirahman Adam: It is my pleasure, Anderson.

President Abdirahman Irro Inaugurates Conference to Develop Small and Medium Enterprises

By M.A. Egge

The President of the Republic of Somaliland, His Excellency Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi Irro, has said that the government is steadfastly working on the peace process, with focus on the release of prisoners captured during the unfortunate Las Anod war, and at the same time, towards the reopening of trade and social movements in the affected areas. President Abdirahman Irro also noted that the government is committed to making greater efforts to strengthen the economy and ensure that development is balanced across all sectors of the economy.

The Head of State gave the facts on Tuesday as he addressed the opening of the two-day maiden Conference on the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises in the country in an historic speech; given that this is the first time the plight of such entrepreneurs has been highlighted at national level. He made it clear that there are many challenges that cannot be underestimated facing the country's middle- and lower-class entrepreneurs, mainly because of lack of access to financing and credit opportunities.

He noted that the business administration system and laws barriers sometimes act as inhibitions to small and medium-sized entrepreneurs' development. The President has directed the Ministry of Trade and Tourism and other trade-related agencies to increase public awareness, encouraging citizens to practically and technically develop a culture of investment and entrepreneurial creativity.

He said, "The government of "Togetherness and Action" is committed to making greater efforts to strengthen the economy and ensure that development is balanced across all sectors of the economy".

He continued, "The country's small and medium-sized businesses have made significant progress during the existence of this nation, and as the mayor said, they are the backbone of the Somaliland economy.

"They play a significant role in the sources of revenue from the national and local budgets.

"However, there are significant challenges facing middle and lower-class businesses, including access to financing and loans, which are difficult due to the country's business administration system and laws that sometimes become restrictive; and the country's markets, which are sometimes unstable, so many businesses fail easily".

The President underpinned the fact that the government has made efforts to develop various businesses in the country.



He said, "As a government, we have come up with a three-pronged effort in which we want to strengthen small and medium-sized businesses in the country, and businesses can operate when there is peace, and as such we will continue our plans to strengthen the overall peace of the Republic of Somaliland and especially in the areas of the eastern Sool region of Somaliland".

He made it clear that the government would give first priority the release of prisoners and the reopening of social and commercial movements.

Similarly, the President stated that the government would strengthen the free market to ensure open competition and encourage innovation.

He said, "We will strengthen the free market to achieve open competition, encourage innovation and exchange of ideas among all citizens. We are committed to eliminating any obstacles to investment and entrepreneurial creativity, while emphasizing the protection of property rights, so that citizens can be free to work.

"We believe that business is the path to development and prosperity of the country, so we will review and remove any obstacles that may delay the creation of small and medium-sized businesses."

The President added that entrepreneurial citizens would be supported in accessing loans.

He said, "We will seek investment and loans for citizens with entrepreneurial ideas, and we will increase the quality and performance of government employees, who are engaged in business-related institutions, so that new and existing businesses can do business more easily".

The President said that he hopes that the national conference, which is a maiden one and is being seriously held at the national level for the first time, would produce results that reflect the theme chosen for the forum, which is to find ideas to create policies, knowledge and finance to strengthen small and

medium-sized businesses in the Republic of Somaliland in order to overcome the challenges ahead. He said, "This Forum is an opportunity for businessmen, experts, government officials and international friends, local businessmen and private banks to ask themselves the most appropriate way to strengthen small and medium-sized businesses in the country.

"I applaud this year's theme that you have adopted, namely 'strengthening the resilience of small and medium-sized enterprises'.

"We hope that this conference will produce a result that reflects the name you have chosen, namely to find ideas to create a knowledge and financial policy to strengthen small and medium-sized enterprises in Somaliland, overcoming the existing obstacles.

"I instruct the Ministry of Trade Development and Tourism and other national trade-related institutions to increase public awareness, so that citizens can be created with a culture of investment and entrepreneurial creativity, especially by educating citizens about the possibilities of trading in the country's resources.

"Domestic and foreign markets, including salt production, marine resources, coal etc, and to encourage partnerships and co-ownership".

He added, "It is true that financial infrastructure is the foundation of economic development, so we have invested a lot of effort in developing the country's road construction and transportation system".

He ended, "In the first 100 days, we have set the path for creating a national trade policy, a tourism development policy, and the trade of frankincense and myrrh. We expect that the two days of the conference will bring forth expert resolutions that will find ideas that are fruitful or fertile for the development of small and medium-sized businesses."

Somaliland's Economic.....



by members of the Council of Ministers and the Governor of the Central Bank. Chaired by the Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Hon. Abdillahi Hassan Aden, the meeting included fourteen Council members and the Director General of the Ministry, Mr. Mohamed Hassan Saleban. This session, part of a series following a similar meeting on February 16, 2025, reviewed progress on prior decisions, with technical committees presenting updates and discussions focusing on government priorities and stakeholder engagement in economic sectors.

Minister Aden outlined the meeting's objectives, stating, "Today, we have gathered to analyze and discuss the plan prepared by the technical committees of the ministries related to the economy. We will also approve the work schedule of the high-level committee and their meeting timelines to ensure we move forward." The meeting concluded with the following resolutions to drive economic progress: Enhance policies, regulations, studies, and strategies for agriculture, fisheries, tourism, and mining sectors, aligning with the third national development plan.

Secure affordable energy to support economic development. Modernize air transport services and airport infrastructure in Somaliland.

Streamline banking operations and credit access to boost trade and job creation.

Facilitate domestic and foreign investment to stimulate economic growth and attract international investors.

Promote domestic production by replacing imported basic goods with locally made products.

Simplify trade and goods movement to neighboring countries, ensuring Somaliland's port competes regionally to increase trade revenue. Under President Dr. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi Irro, the Ministry of Finance has expanded its role to include Economic Development. Senior officials have launched initiatives to accelerate economic priorities, establishing ministerial-level committees to engage stakeholders, holding preparatory meetings, setting work plans, appointing interdisciplinary technical committees, and agreeing on a time-bound schedule for critical tasks.

In conclusion, these efforts underscore the urgent need to organize and accelerate Somaliland's economy through effective policies. The meeting's outcomes aim to enhance domestic production and address pressing challenges such as inflation, food scarcity, poverty, and youth unemployment.

Dahabshiil Honored Global.....

Haween'. Your commitment is what builds the foundation of our communities, and we are truly grateful for all that you do.

On International Workers' Day, Dahabshiil's Facebook post congratulated all global workers and praised the contributions and performance of women.

Dahabshiil, a leading Somali funds transfer company and the largest money-transfer business in Africa, operates with a strong emphasis on community, economic empowerment, and supporting the Somali diaspora and workers globally. Their operations, which span over 126 countries with more than 24,000 outlets and employ over 2,000 people, reflect a deep commitment to facilitating the financial contributions of workers, particularly migrant workers, to their families and communities. This aligns closely with the core

principles of International Labor Day, which celebrates the contributions, struggles, and rights of workers worldwide.

Dahabshiil's operations are deeply tied to the labor of the Somali diaspora, who send an estimated \$1.6 billion annually to Somalia, with Dahabshiil handling around two-thirds of these remittances. Dahabshiil focuses on honouring workers' contributions, empowering communities, and advocating for rest and recognition. A motto like "Empowering Workers, Building Communities" or "Honouring Every Worker's Journey" would reflect their commitment to workers like 'Hibo iyo Haween' and the broader diaspora. Their role in facilitating remittances and investing in community projects underscores their alignment with Labor Day's principles of dignity, fairness, and solidarity.

Rep of Somaliland Strongly Rejects Somalia's Government Statement on Taiwan Passport

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Somaliland firmly rejects the statement issued by the Government of Somalia on 22 April 2025, which purports to ban Taiwan-issued travel documents and asserts unwarranted claims over Somaliland's airspace.

Such assertions are baseless and constitute direct affront to the principles of peaceful coexistence and regional stability. The Republic of Somaliland is a sovereign and self-governing nation with full authority over its airspace and borders. The Government of Somalia has neither legal nor administrative jurisdiction within the territory of Somaliland, and its declarations have no bearing on the Republic. Somaliland's bilateral relations, including those with the Republic of China (Taiwan), are grounded in mutual respect and conducted in line with international diplomatic



norms. Any attempts to disrupt or dictate the foreign policy choices of the Republic of Somaliland are unacceptable and will not be recognized. The Ministry reaffirms Somaliland's

unwavering commitment to peace, cooperation, and constructive international engagement, and calls upon all parties to respect its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Somaliland's Case for State Continuity and Sovereign Independence

A Legal and Historical Appeal for International Recognition for over three decades, the Republic of Somaliland has maintained its peace, built a democratic state, and governed with stability in one of the most volatile regions in the world. Yet, its rightful claim to international recognition remains unrealized not due to a lack of merit, but due to political inertia and misunderstanding of its legal foundation. Somaliland is not attempting to secede from Somalia. Rather, it is restoring the sovereignty it lawfully attained on 26 June 1960, when it became an independent nation following British Protectorate. At that time, Somaliland was formally recognized by over 30 countries, including five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. Its independence was complete, unconditional, and internationally validated.

Shortly after, Somaliland voluntarily entered into a proposed union with the Trust Territory of Somalia (administered by Italy). However, this union was never finalized through a ratified legal agreement. There was no signed Act of Union between the two states, no harmonized constitution, and no public referendum in Somaliland approving such a union. Legally speaking, the proposed merger lacked substance and enforceability. This absence of binding legal documentation means Somaliland never surrendered its sovereignty. According to the principle of international law—particularly the doctrine of state continuity—a sovereign entity that has been recognized and has not lawfully relinquished its independence retains the right to restore its original status. Somaliland is not seeking to break away; it is reclaiming the legal identity that was submerged under an unrati

political arrangement. The withdrawal from this union in 1991, after years of systemic marginalization and state-sponsored violence under the Siad Barre regime, was not only justified but necessary. Somaliland's decision to reassert its sovereignty was driven by a desire to protect its people, restore law and order, and uphold the will of its citizens. Since then, Somaliland has demonstrated, in both word and deed, its capacity to function as a legitimate state. No binding treaty or principle of international law compels a nation to remain imprisoned in a failed political union. It has defined borders, a permanent population, and an effective government—all criteria outlined in the 1933 Montevideo Convention. It has held multiple democratic elections, passed its own constitution, and established independent institutions. In 2001, a national referendum saw 97% of the population vote in favor of restoring its original independence. Somaliland is not just a functioning de facto state; it has met every legal requirement to be recognized as a de jure state under international law. This is not just a functioning state in practice; it is a nation by law and by right. The recognition of Somaliland is not unprecedented. Cases such as Eritrea, Kosovo, South Sudan, and the Baltic states provide ample legal and diplomatic precedents for acknowledging sovereign claims based on state continuity or remedial separation. Somaliland's case aligns with these examples not as an act of rebellion, but as a restoration of a historical and legal identity that was never legitimately surrendered. Moreover, Somaliland's role in regional security and stability is indisputable. It lies on one of the world's most strategic maritime corridors and



has proven itself a key player in counterterrorism and anti-piracy efforts. Unlike Somalia, which continues to grapple with internal conflict and governance challenges, Somaliland is a model of self-reliance and responsible statehood. To continue withholding recognition is to undermine international legal standards and reward instability over order. It denies a peaceful, democratic people their rightful place in the global community and perpetuates a fiction that benefits no one. It is time for the international community to act with courage and principle to acknowledge Somaliland's legitimacy and bring an end to this long-standing legal and moral oversight. Recognition of Somaliland is not a political gift; it is a legal obligation, a democratic affirmation, and a strategic necessity. The world must honor what Somaliland already is: a sovereign state in practice, in principle, and in the eyes of its people. The world must now meet Somaliland not with hesitation, but with respect. Not with denial, but with dialogue. Not with vague reassurances, but with decisive recognition.

The time to recognize Somaliland is not in the future—it is now. Abdi Halim M. Musa
Political & Economic Analyst
Former Deputy Minister, Ministry of Commerce, Republic of Somaliland

The Director General of.....

The Director General of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals of the Republic of Somaliland, Dr. Shucayb Osman Mahmoud, accompanied by the Director General of the Electricity Energy Commission, Mohamed Abdi Mahmoud, and the Director of the Energy Department, Abdirisaaq Mohamed Abdi, held a meeting at the ministry's headquarters with the Manager of HECO, the company providing electricity services in Burao, Mr. Khadar Jibril, and the Chairman of the company's board, Mr. Mahmoud Ahmed Liban.

The meeting focused on discussing collaboration to improve electricity service delivery in the city, develop the electricity distribution and expansion market, and work

together to reduce electricity costs in Burao, ultimately enhancing the electricity services provided by the company to the community.

Additionally, discussions included the Ministry collaborating with HECO to secure technical and financial support, which the Ministry is actively pursuing and implementing. It was also agreed that HECO would prepare its short- and long-term development plans, focusing on reducing electricity costs.

The meeting concluded successfully with mutual understanding and a commitment to work together to ensure Burao receives affordable, safe, and reliable electricity.

Dahabshiil CEO Praises British.....



"When we run, stand, and support our communities and the causes we believe in, change happens faster, let's all do our part to make a difference," observed Duale

British Ambassador to Somalia, Mike Nithavrianakis has received great admiration for running for a worthy cause in this year's London Marathon. The envoy took part in the race on April 27, 2025, to raise funds for Save the Children fund.

Ambassador Nithavrianakis was among 90 other runners who took part in the marathon to raise funds for Save the Children, supporting life-saving projects in Somalia and Somaliland.

"We create lasting change for and with children. We support them to be safe, and healthy and to learn, whilst also tackling the root causes of inequality. We believe every child deserves a fair future," said Nithavrianakis.

"By providing life-saving short-term help, and pushing for deep-rooted social change, we help children take their future into their own hands," he added.

"Save The Children provides food, water and education for children, but needs critical funds to extend basic services to many more. My run will support life-saving projects for these children," added the ambassador.

Dahabshiil Group Chief Executive Officer Abdirashid Duale whose company has been one of the big supporters of the Save The Children cause congratulated Nithavrianakis

for completing the 2025 London Marathon.

Duale said Nithavrianakis' efforts reflect a broader spirit of solidarity and commitment.

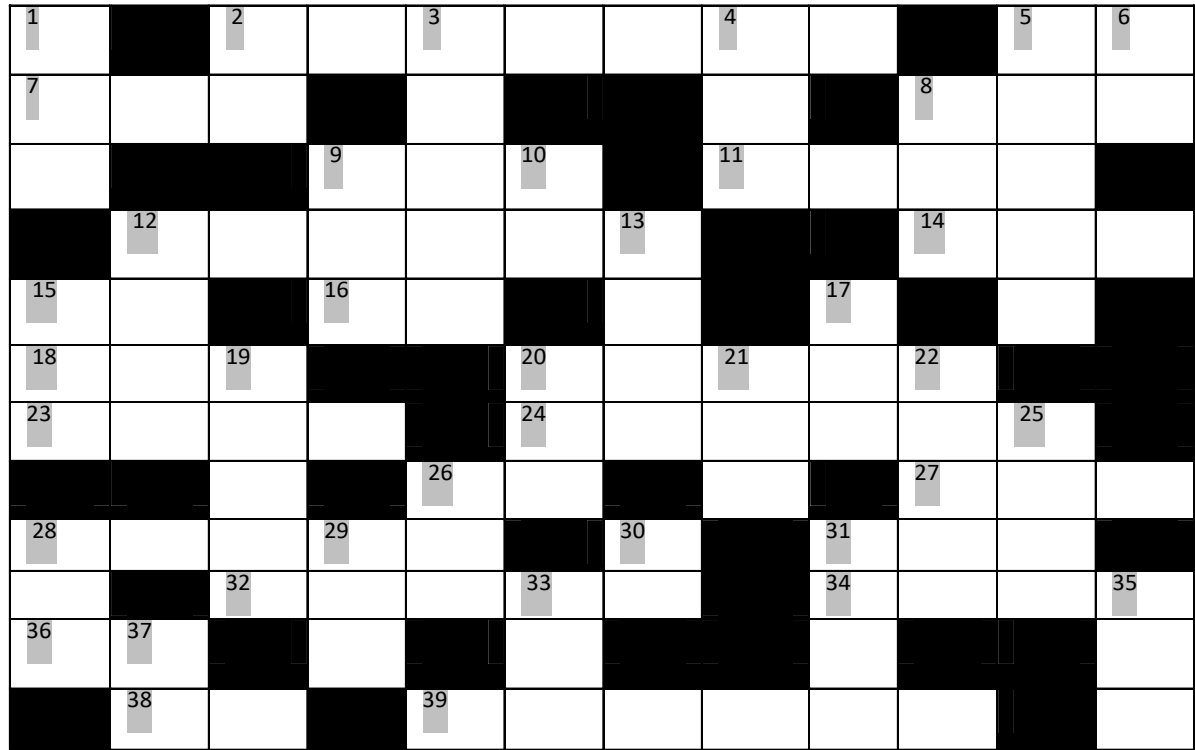
"When we run, stand, and support our communities and the causes we believe in, change happens faster, let's all do our part to make a difference," observed Duale

Duale said the Ambassador's initiative is a reminder that every effort counts adding that real change happens faster when communities unite around a common cause.

Ambassador Nithavrianakis' participation in the marathon was fueled by a deeply personal and diplomatic commitment to helping vulnerable communities. With approximately 1.7 million children under five suffering from acute malnutrition in Somalia, and millions more displaced by conflict and climate change, his mission was clear: to raise awareness and critical funding for humanitarian projects.

Having witnessed firsthand the transformative work of Save the Children across Somalia, the Ambassador dedicated his marathon run to amplifying their life-saving initiatives. His efforts have already garnered significant support through his fundraising campaign, with contributions from individuals and organisations alike. Save the Children has operated in Somalia for over 70 years since 1951.

THT Puzzle



- ACROSS
- DOWN
- 1 immediate

5 toward

7 Child

8 Youngster

9 Unhappy

11 Postponement

12 Look for/ explore

14 knock or touch point

15 By the side of

16 pronoun

18 Rule

20 Assembly

23 Steely

24 Combined

26 Scheduled or preposition place or time

27 Assistance

28 Permit

31 Donkey

32 Disco

34 Time out

36 Perform or ensuring

39 Twelve-monthly
- 1 Atmosphere

2 identification

3 Additional

4 Instantly

5 Entire

6 Proceeding

8 Be seated

9 Saying

10 power systems opposite of AC

12 Space

13 Alarm uses cars or lorries

15 A well known Islamic boxer

17 Place something

19 Creation

20 Firearm

21 Lubricant

22 Peacetime

25 Insult

26 Personal or private

28 Increase addition

29 Cereal

30 Remain

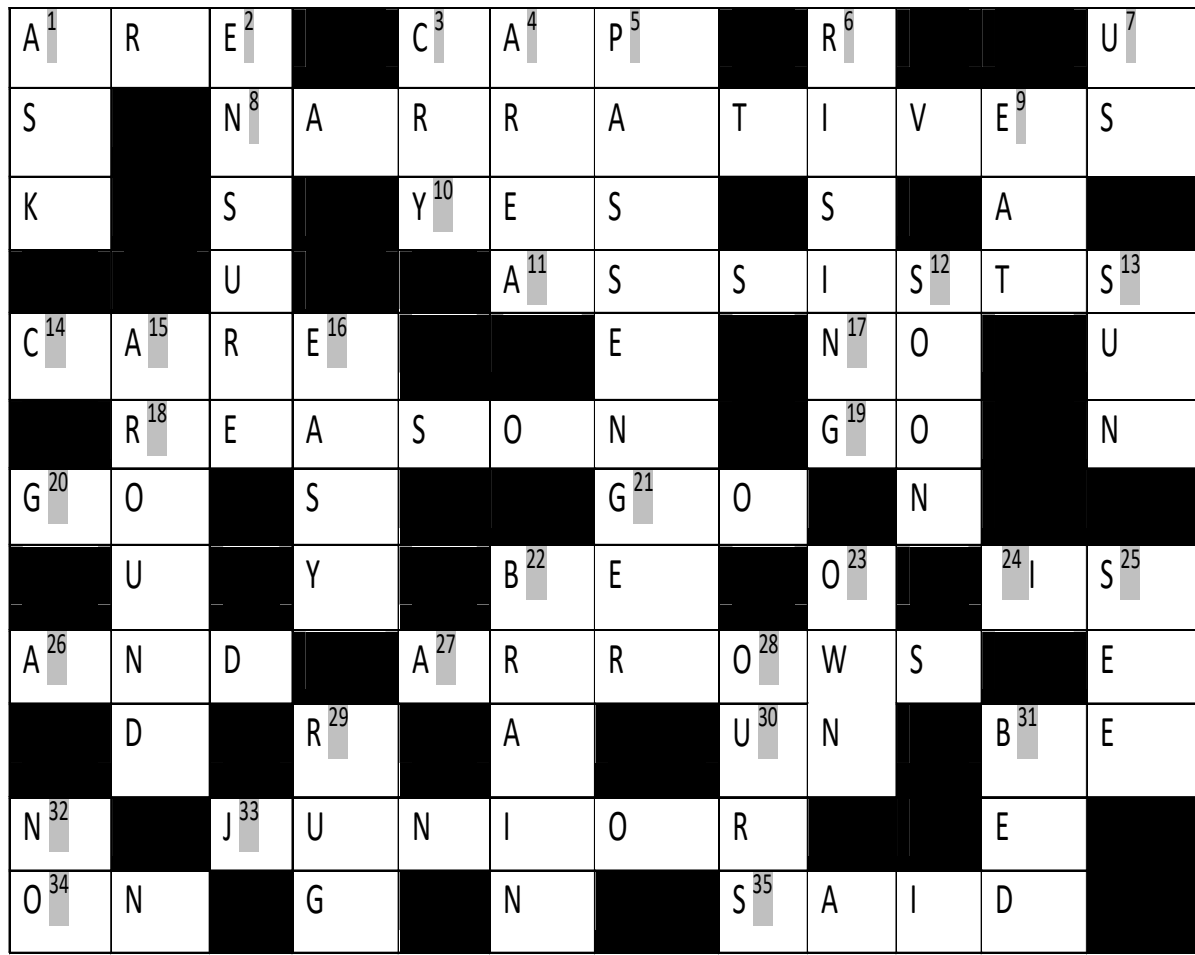
31 Zone

33 Container

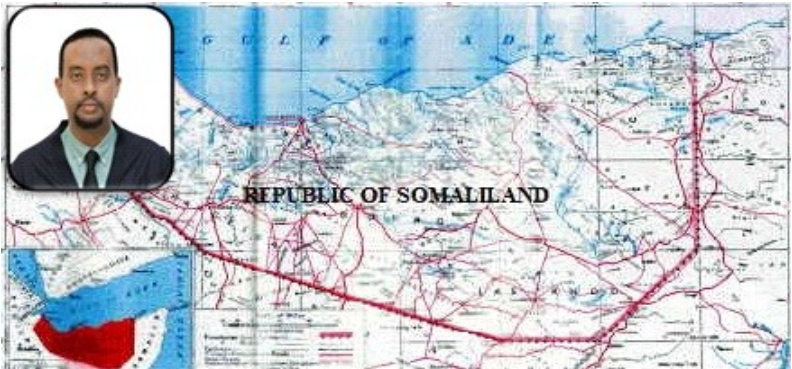
35 Attempt

37 on time

Previous Answer



Potential Outcomes Following the End of US Support to Somalia's Federal Government and Its Effects on Somaliland's Security Situation



The security arena in Somalia is witnessing the return of the deployment of the Islamic Al Shabab forces with their repeated attacks on the camps of the various federal forces, and many analysts attribute the reason for this to the near end of the tasks of the African security forces with the cessation of US support for the federal state in Somalia and the African security forces stationed inside Somalia, and the possibility of a scenario of Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan following the withdrawal of American forces two years ago has also emerged on the horizon. The situation in Somalia will not go beyond one of these scenarios:

- 1- The rapid collapse of the federal government system with the successive control of Al-Shabaab forces over the regions and cities, eventually reaching the capital, with the government fleeing abroad (to Kenya or one of the Gulf countries).
- 2- The control of Al-Shabaab forces over the rural areas and villages outside Banadir (the capital) with the weakness of government administration in those regions, while the government continues to be present in Mogadishu with the support of some countries that have interests in this government such as Turkey , Ethiopia and some Arabic countries Egypt & Gulf countries, allowing the federal government to continue its work from the capital only.

Also there will be an important question, what is the impact of this on Somaliland?

I see that the resurgence of Al-Shabaab forces in the Somali regions will have a clear impact on activating dormant cells within Somaliland, which have ideological and intellectual loyalty to Al-Shabaab. This will affect the stability within Somaliland if the government does not tighten and activate security and monitoring networks for such cells, which, if they become active and operational, will not be easy to contain.

In general, the situation in Somalia is an inevitable result of the complete reliance on external support in the security and economic programs followed by successive federal governments, which have not sought to create and find an internal solution to the security dilemma that has persisted for several decades.

Somaliland NEC, National Parties' Steering Committee Task-force in Orientation Meeting

By M.A. Egge

The National Electoral Commission (NEC) of the Republic of Somaliland officially held its first meeting of introduction and information exchange with the National Party Steering Committee (Taskforce) recently appointed by the three National Parties of Kaah, Kulmiye, and Waddani. The orientation meeting focused on strengthening the cooperation between the two parties and making significant progress in the registration and preparation activities for the upcoming elections. During the meeting, the NEC provided a comprehensive report on the important tasks it has undertaken over the past five months, which are essential for improving the electoral system and enhancing the operational capacity of the institution. The tasks included: A meeting to review lessons learned from the presidential and national party elections in the Somaliland Legislative Assembly. A working trip by the National Electoral Commission to Kenya, where meetings were held with donors and ambassadors of nations supporting Somaliland's electoral affairs to



discuss electoral issues. Preparation of the National Electoral Commission's Strategic Plan for the next five years, and finalization of the policies and procedures of the National Electoral Commission Office. An audit of the electoral registration system was conducted, using the international firm KPMG, one of the top five auditing firms in the world. The KPMG report provided an in-depth assessment of the Registration System, which will greatly contribute to the development and transparency of the electoral register. The National Electoral Commission of Somaliland noted that the meeting is "the beginning of a close cooperation between the two sides on the registration system and the preparation of free, fair, and transparent elections".

Could Oil Turn Somaliland into a Prosperous African Nation?

In the world's frantic race for energy dominance, the small, unrecognized African territory of Somaliland is quietly stepping onto the stage, holding what could be one of the continent's last major oil frontiers. Beneath the dust and rugged terrain of Somaliland lies a potential goldmine — not of gold itself, but of black gold: oil. And if the early estimates are anything to go by, this could transform the geopolitical and economic fortunes of a region that has, for decades, been politically adrift and economically fragile.

In 2020, TGS, the respected Norwegian seismic survey company, delivered a report that should have turned more global heads than it did. According to TGS, the Somali basin — which covers both offshore and parts of the onshore territories including Somaliland — likely holds offshore reserves of about 30 billion barrels of oil. The onshore reserves, while less consistently assessed, are not insignificant either.

Somaliland's Hidden Wealth

The very mention of "30 billion barrels" instantly evokes visions of Dubai's meteoric rise or the transformation of Saudi Arabia from desert lands into sprawling cities of opulence. Yet, Somaliland's narrative is far more complex. It declared independence from Somalia in 1991 following the collapse of the Somali government but has not been internationally recognized as a sovereign state. This political limbo has kept Somaliland out of major global investment conversations. And yet, paradoxically, this might have preserved its oil riches from the reckless exploitation that has characterized resource extraction in many African nations.

For Somaliland, oil represents more than just economic potential — it symbolizes political leverage, autonomy, and survival. A stable, oil-producing Somaliland could recalibrate international relationships and force a new conversation about its statehood.

The Challenges Beneath the Surface

But it's not as simple as drilling and declaring prosperity. The story of oil discoveries in Africa is littered with cautionary tales. From Nigeria's Delta region — where oil wealth fed corruption, environmental degradation, and insurgency — to Angola's failed promise of equitable wealth distribution, African oil has too often deepened poverty rather than alleviated it.

Somaliland must confront these realities head-on. It must avoid what economists grimly call the "resource curse," where instead of catalyzing growth, natural wealth breeds misgovernance, conflict, and economic distortion.



Moreover, there are practical hurdles. Exploration and extraction require billions in investment, state-of-the-art technology, and secure environments for multinational companies. Somaliland's lack of international recognition complicates the signing of legally binding contracts with global majors. Although some mid-tier companies like Genel Energy have been willing to take calculated risks, scaling up to industrial-level production will demand a broader coalition of investors and insurers willing to bet on Somaliland's stability.

Lessons in Governance: A Hopeful Sign

Here, however, Somaliland offers a glimmer of hope that sets it apart from many failed oil states. Despite its lack of international recognition, Somaliland has maintained remarkable internal stability for over three decades. It holds regular elections, has a functioning government, and boasts a democratic spirit rare in the Horn of Africa. This governance maturity could serve as a critical bulwark against the usual oil curse scenarios.

If Somaliland can remain internally cohesive, maintain transparent management of oil revenues, and invest profits into diversifying its economy — especially infrastructure, education, and technology — it stands a fighting chance of avoiding the pitfalls that have trapped others.

Imagine a scenario where Somaliland uses its oil revenues not to build vanity projects or fund corrupt patronage networks, but to become the "Singapore of the Horn of Africa" — a trade, finance, and logistics hub connecting Africa to the Middle East and beyond. Such a future is possible — but only if leadership remains visionary, disciplined, and fiercely patriotic.

The Geopolitical Quake

The oil factor introduces unavoidable geopolitical tremors. Somalia, which considers Somaliland an integral part of its sovereign territory, will almost certainly contest any unilateral oil production. Neighboring countries, seeing a wealthy Somaliland on the horizon, could be tempted either to interfere or forge new alliances. Major powers — especially China,

the United States, and Gulf nations — will see in Somaliland either a threat to manage or an opportunity to exploit.

In a world increasingly polarized between the West and rising Eurasian powers, Somaliland's oil could make it a pawn in a larger chess game. That, again, demands astute, savvy leadership — leaders who can play a multi-vector foreign policy game, courting investors without becoming captives to any single power bloc.

The Climate Imperative

Finally, there is the unavoidable elephant in the room: climate change. The 2020s are not the 1970s. Global momentum toward renewable energy is irreversible. Investment in oil and gas is increasingly scrutinized, and the window for hydrocarbon-based economic miracles is closing. Somaliland must act swiftly. If it waits too long, it risks being left with unexploited reserves in a world that no longer wants them.

That means rapid, responsible development — using early oil revenues not to double down on fossil fuels but to invest in the transition economy: solar power, hydrogen, clean manufacturing, and sustainable urbanization.

A Fork in the Road

Today, Somaliland stands at a historic fork in the road. One path leads to prosperity, recognition, and a meaningful place in the world's economic and diplomatic corridors. The other path — paved with greed, shortsightedness, and weak institutions — leads to the same sorry fate that has befallen too many resource-rich African nations. The next five to ten years will decide which road Somaliland takes. Oil is a blessing only when matched with wisdom. The black gold beneath Somaliland's soil could indeed turn it into a prosperous African nation — but prosperity is not found in the barrel alone. It is found in the boardroom, the parliament, and the hearts and minds of a people willing to imagine a future bigger than themselves.

The oil is real. The potential is immense. The question is: will Somaliland rise to the moment, or will it squander its once-in-a-century chance at greatness?

Time, as always, will tell.

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DG Abdisalan Praises Geeska Band's Transformation, Affirms Information Ministry's Support for Artists



By M.A. Egge

The Ministry of Information, Culture and National Guidance is committed to supporting the nation's artistes and their groups as they continue to play their role in promoting and forging forward for stability and social cohesion within the country.

The sentiments were stated by the Director General of the Ministry Mr. Abdisalan Mahmoud Duale, popularly known as Ilka'ase on Wednesday in a tribute to the Geeska Band, (the Horn Group of Artists).

He lauded them for the transformation and strengthening changes made to the troupe and the injection of new young blood to carry on their prowess.

A statement by the DG went as follows: –

"I broadly welcome the transformation and strengthening of the Horn Stars group of artists, which is one of the largest groups in the Republic of Somaliland.

"I commend the Horn Stars group for the reform they have made

and the new generation they have added to their group. This step will further strengthen their artistic production and their prominent role in the nation.

"The Ministry of Information is committed to working closely with this group and other artistic groups in the country.

"The Ministry of Information, as the representative of culture and art in the government of "Togetherness and Action", is committed to supporting and strengthening artistic groups.

"I urge the Horn Stars group of artists and all artistic groups in the country to further raise awareness of patriotism and nationalism in the Republic of Somaliland.

"Therefore, I once again commend the country's artists for the great role they always play in the process and stages the country is going through. They should continue to play a significant role in promoting stability and social cohesion."

END.

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